

AUG 31 1950

FULBRIGHT PRODS U. S. ON MIDEAST

Urges Forming of 'Mature' Policy on Basis of Arab States' New 'Stability'

By DANA ADAMS SCHMIDT
Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30.—Senator J. W. Fulbright, in a formal statement, prodded the State Department today to take a new look at Middle Eastern policies.

The Arkansas Democrat, who is chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said:

"I hope very much that the leaders of the Arab states and of the United States may move imaginatively and boldly toward a new, more mature and realistic relationship."

Recalling that a year ago the pro-Western Iraqi Government had been overthrown, that United States troops had landed in Lebanon and British paratroopers in Jordan, Senator Fulbright drew attention to calm now prevailing.

Relative Stability Found

"There was a serious question whether shattered Western influence and prestige could ever be regained," he said.

But in the last year, the statement continued, a relative stability has been established in the Middle East and "the trend of events in the area offers a certain amount of cautious encouragement."

In particular, Mr. Fulbright mentioned developments in Iraq, Lebanon and Jordan and increased understanding between the United States and the United Arab Republic.

"It seems to me that the peoples and governments of the Arab states may be in the process of establishing the stability and relative calm es-

sential to the development of representative government and economic growth," he said.

Mature Attitude Urged

The United States, he continued, "must be prepared to meet these hopeful developments in the Arab world with a policy considerably more mature than that which we have followed in the past." He expressed hope that such a policy—something more than impromptu measures to meet periodic crises—was now being developed.

Such a policy, Senator Ful-

bright continued must mean "treating each of these sovereign states on an adult and realistic basis, rather than suggesting the presence of a political vacuum in the Arab world."

"We must take into account the full capabilities of the Arabs themselves," he said. "This we have failed to do in the past."

By way of illustration he noted the skepticism and even derision that greeted the decision of President Abdel Gamal Nasser of Egypt—now heading the United Arab Republic—in the summer of 1956 to take over operation of the Suez Canal.

"However, the canal is being operated just as efficiently as before," Senator Fulbright said. "The banks have not crumbled, the locks have not failed, or ships collided."

State Department officials

commented later in the day that they were not aware that any far-reaching reappraisal of American policy in the Middle East was under way or imminent.

Senator Fulbright explained by telephone that his main motive in issuing the statement was that the Arab nations "deserved some favorable comment." He noted that Premier Abdul Karim Kassim of Iraq had done far better than most officials here expected in maintaining his independence.

Also, Mr. Fulbright noted that President Nasser had resumed diplomatic relations with Jordan and was reaching settlements with Britain, France and the Netherlands.

"Why not encourage them a little?" he remarked of the Arab states and peoples in their growing "stability."